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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHMO #3736 2121438  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 311438Z JUL 07  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2510  
INFO RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA 0120

UNCLAS MOSCOW 003736

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR OES/SAT(HODGKINS), EUR/PRA(FRIEDT),  
EUR/RUS(GREENSTEIN), ISN/CATR, L/NP

SENSITIVE  
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E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [TSPA](#) [ECPS](#) [KSCA](#) [PREL](#) [PARM](#) [RS](#)  
SUBJECT: RUSSIAN NOTE ON SEA LAUNCH, MFA COMMENTS ON SPACE ISSUES

REFS: A. STATE 87399  
[1](#)B. STATE 77400

THIS MESSAGE IS SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED. PLEASE PROTECT  
ACCORDINGLY.

- [1](#)1. (SBU) This message contains an action request. See paragraph 6.
- [1](#)2. (SBU) On July 27, EST Officers met Andrey Kruitskikh, Deputy Director of the Department for Security and Disarmament Affairs (DVBR) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at his request. He delivered a Diplomatic Note regarding the Sea Launch Technology Safeguards Agreement (TSA) stating that GOR had taken all necessary government steps to bring the TSA into force. Kruitskikh said the USG should deliver a final note acknowledging the date of delivery of the Russian note to bring the TSA into force.
- [1](#)3. (SBU) Kruitskikh also reported that the MFA is ready to move forward with the extension of the Agreement for Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Space for Peaceful Purposes (the "Civil Space Agreement," Ref A) and the Agreement Concerning the Procedure for the Customs Documentation and Duty-Free Entry of Goods Transported within the Framework of U.S.-Russian Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Space for Peaceful Purposes (the "Customs Agreement," Ref B). He delivered two draft diplomatic notes that he said the GOR was prepared to formalize if the USG accepts proposed minor wording adjustments reflected in the notes.
- [1](#)4. (SBU) Referring to the Baikonur Technology Safeguards Agreement (BTSA), Kruitskikh said that the GOR had completed its comparison of the Russian and Kazakh texts, and is prepared to finalize all legal matters. He reported that the GOR hopes the USG will move to complete the process and suggested that the USG and the GOR approach the GOK to urge quick action to bring the BTSA into force.
- [1](#)5. (SBU) Regarding the draft Framework Technology Safeguards Agreement (FTSA), he said he looks forward to reviewing USG revisions. Already wearing a fishing jacket, Kruitskikh noted that he would be on vacation from August 20 until the end of September and expressed the hope that the two sides could meet in Moscow upon his return.
- [1](#)6. (SBU) Copies of the diplomatic notes and Embassy's informal translation have been sent electronically to EUR/PRA and EUR/RUS.
- [1](#)7. (SBU) Post requests instructions to respond to Kruitskikh's proposals on the draft diplomatic notes on the Civil Space Agreement and the Customs Agreement.

RUSSELL